

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1409

By Harrison

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Head Coach Charlie Christopher and the Cherokee High School Lady Chiefs softball team upon earning a berth in the TSSAA Class AAA State Tournament.

WHEREAS, the General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those successful high school teams that, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors of this State; and

WHEREAS, the Cherokee High School Lady Chiefs softball team has achieved an extraordinary level of success during the 2008 season, winning their Sub-State Game and earning a berth in the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) Class AAA State Softball Tournament, the State's highest level of high school softball competition; and

WHEREAS, in their final matchup before the State Tournament, the Lady Chiefs faced off against the Maryville Lady Rebs, a perennial softball powerhouse; and

WHEREAS, rallying from a 2-0 deficit, Cherokee capitalized on the sixth inning woes of Maryville's pitcher that led to three hit batters and two walked batters; Courtney Davis contributed a single that knocked in one run, while Whitney Gilbert cleared the loaded bases with a triple to left field en route to the Lady Chiefs' 5-2 win; and

WHEREAS, in support of this stellar show of offensive skill, Cherokee High School's stalwart defense was led by Ms. Gilbert, who pitched an excellent game, striking out ten and retiring the first twelve batters while allowing only a meager two hits; and

WHEREAS, in just her first year as Head Coach, Charlie Christopher has enjoyed the help of Assistant Coaches Kelly Hughes and Tony Hughes in cultivating the talent of each of her players and guiding this exemplary team; and

WHEREAS, the softball players of Cherokee High School epitomize all that is good in today's student-athlete, as they have achieved a high level of success on the field while showing the highest degree of character both on and off the field; and

WHEREAS, the Lady Chiefs of Cherokee High School are: Savannah Ewing, Abby Hughes, Gaby Murrell, Ashlee Price, Courtney Davis, Keisha Barnett, Keisha Mahan, Chelsea Hensley, Whitney Gilbert, Brittany Horton, Kelly Manis, Ashley Steel, and Chelsey Smith; and

WHEREAS, the dedication, determination, work ethic, and talent of this group of young women not only have made possible a successful softball season, but also surely bode well for their success in every future endeavor; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to acknowledge and applaud the Cherokee High School Lady Chiefs for winning their Regional Tournament and earning a berth in the 2008 TSSAA Class AAA State Softball Tournament and for serving as examples of the high quality of the youth of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Head Coach Charlie Christopher and the Cherokee High School Lady Chiefs on their remarkable 2008 season, and wish them much continued success as they compete in the Class AAA Tournament in Murfreesboro.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.